Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings of claims in the instant application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method comprising:

stalling a request on a host computer system prior to sending the request to a target computer system; ~~and~~

determining whether the request is suspicious~~,~~;

wherein upon a determination that the request is not suspicious, releasing the request; and

wherein upon a determination that the request is suspicious, ~~determining whether malicious code activity is detected based upon the request~~ adding a request entry to a request database, the request entry identifying the request,

generating a counter value associated with the request entry,

determining whether the counter value meets a counter value threshold, and

wherein upon a determination that the counter value meets the counter value threshold, determining that malicious code activity is detected.

2. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

wherein upon a determination that malicious code activity is detected, generating a notification that malicious code activity is detected; and

implementing one or more protective actions.

GUNNISON, McKAY & HODGSON, L.L.P.
Garden West Office Plaza
1900 Garden Road, Suite 220
Monterey, CA 93940
(831) 655-0880
Fax (831) 655-0888

3. (Original) A method comprising:

intercepting a request on a host computer system;

stalling the request; and

determining whether the request is suspicious,

wherein upon a determination that the request is suspicious, adding a request entry representative of the request to a request database, and

determining whether malicious code activity is detected on the host computer system based upon the request entry.

4. (Original) The method of Claim 3, further comprising:

wherein upon a determination that the request is not suspicious, releasing the request.

5. (Original) The method of Claim 3, further comprising:

wherein upon a determination that malicious code activity is detected on the host computer system, generating a notification that malicious code activity is detected on the host computer system; and

implementing one or more protective actions.

6. (Original) The method of Claim 3, further comprising:

wherein upon a determination that malicious code activity is not detected on the host computer system, releasing the request.

7. (Original) The method of Claim 3, wherein the determining whether malicious code activity is detected on the host computer system based upon the request entry further comprises:

GUNNISON, McKAY & HODGSON, L.L.P.
Garden West Office Plaza
1900 Garden Road, Suite 220
Monterey, CA 93940
(831) 655-0880
Fax (831) 655-0888

generating a counter value associated with the request entry; and

determining whether the counter value meets a counter value threshold,

wherein upon a determination that the counter value does not meet the counter value threshold, determining that malicious code activity is not detected on the host computer system, and

wherein upon a determination that the counter value meets the counter value threshold, determining that malicious code activity is detected on the host computer system.

8. (Original) The method of Claim 3, wherein the implementing one or more protective actions comprises:

terminating the request.

9. (Original) The method of Claim 3, wherein the request is an HTTP GET request.

10. (Original) The method of Claim 3, wherein the intercepting a request on a host computer system utilizes a local proxy mechanism.

11. (Original) The method of Claim 3, wherein the intercepting a request on a host computer system occurs at the application level.

12. (Currently amended) A malicious code detection device comprising:

an intercept module, the intercept module for intercepting a request issuing on a host computer system prior to the sending of the request from the host computer system to a target computer system;

GUNNISON, McKAY & HODGSON, L.L.P.
Garden West Office Plaza
1900 Garden Road, Suite 220
Monterey, CA 93940
(831) 655-0880
Fax (831) 655-0888

an analyzer module coupled to the intercept module;

a request database coupled to the analyzer module, the request database including one or more request entries, each of the one or more request entries identifying a request determined to be suspicious; and

a standards list coupled to the analyzer module, the standards list including selected standards for use in determining whether the request is suspicious.

13. (Original) The malicious code detection device of Claim 12, further comprising:

an inclusion profile list coupled to the analyzer module.

14. (Original) The malicious code detection device of Claim 12, further comprising:

an exclusion profile list coupled to the analyzer module.

15. (Original) The malicious code detection device of Claim 12, further comprising a memory area coupled to the intercept module and the analyzer module.

16. (Original) The malicious code detection device of Claim 12, wherein the intercept module includes an interception mechanism for intercepting a request.

17. (Currently amended) A computer program product comprising a computer-readable medium containing computer program code for a method comprising:

stalling a request on a host computer system prior to sending the request to a target computer system; ~~and~~

determining whether the request is suspicious~~,~~;

wherein upon a determination that the request is not suspicious, releasing the request; and

GUNNISON, McKAY & HODGSON, L.L.P.
Garden West Office Plaza
1900 Garden Road, Suite 220
Monterey, CA 93940
(831) 655-0880
Fax (831) 655-0888

wherein upon a determination that the request is suspicious, ~~determining whether malicious code activity is detected based upon the request~~ adding a request entry to a request database, the request entry identifying the request,

generating a counter value associated with the request entry,

determining whether the counter value meets a counter value threshold, and

wherein upon a determination that the counter value meets the counter value threshold, determining that malicious code activity is detected.

18. (Original) The computer program product of Claim 17, the method further comprising:

wherein upon a determination that malicious code activity is detected, generating a notification that malicious code activity is detected; and

implementing one or more protective actions.

19. (Original) A computer program product comprising a computer-readable medium containing computer program code for a method comprising:

intercepting a request on a host computer system;

stalling the request; and

determining whether the request is suspicious,

wherein upon a determination that the request is suspicious, adding a request entry representative of the request to a request database, and

determining whether malicious code activity is detected on the host computer system based upon the request entry.

GUNNISON, McKAY & HODGSON, L.L.P.
Garden West Office Plaza
1900 Garden Road, Suite 220
Monterey, CA 93940
(831) 655-0880
Fax (831) 655-0888

20. (Original) The computer program product of Claim 19, the method further comprising:

wherein upon a determination that malicious code activity is detected on the host computer system, generating a notification that malicious code activity is detected on the host computer system; and

implementing one or more protective actions.

GUNNISON, McKAY & HODGSON, L.L.P.
Garden West Office Plaza
1900 Garden Road, Suite 220
Monterey, CA 93940
(831) 655-0880
Fax (831) 655-0888